

Mr. Speaker, nearly 3 million children have been lifted from poverty. Work among mothers most likely to go on welfare has risen by 40 percent. Nine million people left welfare, a 60 percent drop. That, Mr. Speaker, is the definition of success.

Welfare reform is working, but in order to get more people from welfare to work, we must continue to improve the system. In the past 6 years, we have seen welfare cases fall by 14 million to just 5 million people. By reaching out to Americans in need, we have changed our society for the better, and have changed the lives of millions of Americans forever. We are making progress. Let us not rest on our laurels. Let us strengthen the path towards independence by empowering people to support themselves. Vote yes on H.R. 4700.

SPACE FLIGHT PROGRAM IS ADRIFT

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise every day to talk about Ludwig Koons and our need to return him from Italy to the United States, and I want to digress from that story, but please remember how important it is that we concentrate on bringing our children home.

Today's message is about human space flight. America's human space flight program is adrift with no clear vision or commitment to any goals after the completion of the International Space Station.

Today I will be introducing the Space Exploration Act of 2002 to provide a vision and a concrete set of goals for the Nation's human space flight program after the International Space Station. This legislation sets forth specific incremental goals that are exciting, challenging and that build capabilities and infrastructure needed for an ultimate human mission to Mars.

Once America gets started on achieving the first of the human space flight goals listed in the bill, we have gotten over the highest hurdle to success in the entire initiative. We will once again be moving outward beyond low Earth orbit, and in the process, we will revitalize our space program, energize our industrial and academic sectors, create new opportunities for international cooperation, and inspire our young people.

MARRIAGE IS SAFEST PLACE FOR WOMEN

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, we live in a world that has changed drastically since the 1950s. Couples are getting married later in life, and almost 40 per-

cent of first marriages end in divorce. And yet every day, men and women all over the country pledge to spend their lives together.

Despite what some people believe about marriage, the facts say one thing: Marriage is still the safest place for women.

Mr. Speaker, studies from the Department of Justice show that never-married women are twice as likely to be abused by their partner than married women. Violence occurs more often in homes where the couples are unmarried compared to wed couples, with unmarried women three times more likely to become victims of violence than married women.

Mr. Speaker, these are disturbing statistics. As we consider welfare reform in the coming days, we must encourage and support programs that will provide safety and security for women. It is clear that a society that promotes marriage promotes women.

AMERICAN FAMILIES NEED TOOLS TO BREAK WELFARE CYCLE

(Mr. SANDLIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, we need to pass a welfare reform bill that allows American families to have respect and hope for the future. The goal of the original welfare reform bill was to move people permanently off the welfare rolls and into good-paying jobs. However, the bill proposed by our friends on the other side of the aisle does not accomplish that goal. If we really want to support the dignity of American families and support family values, we need to give families the tools through education and training to get off welfare and break the welfare cycle.

The States need flexibility to address these goals for themselves, not unfunded mandates that violate States rights. Let us stand up for the dignity of American families and support education. Let us support job training. Let us support States rights to address their own problems, and the problems of their State citizens. Vote no on H.R. 4735.

WELFARE REFORM OFFERS SELF- SUFFICIENCY

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, with the passage of welfare reform back in 1996, we moved from a welfare system that bred dependency to one that offers self-sufficiency, and probably even more important, allowing those individuals to regain some of their self-respect. Rather than just being given something for nothing, now they are working.

Since 1996, Michigan, like the Nation, has reduced its welfare caseload by 60

percent. I have been inspired and encouraged by the many success stories in my congressional district of individuals going from welfare to work. Darryl Grubbs is one, and Kendra Norton is another that I have met with whose lives have been turned around thanks to the encouragement of the 1996 welfare reform. These people now have a better life for themselves, and very importantly, better lives for their kids. They tell me that their children are now more proud of their parents, that they are actually doing better in school than they did when they were on welfare.

In conclusion, as the House takes up welfare reauthorization, we should be continuing a system that helps people. I urge Members to make a good program even better by supporting this bill today.

H.R. 4700 WILL TURN BACK CLOCK ON WELFARE REFORM

(Ms. WATSON of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WATSON of California. Mr. Speaker, do Members hear the children crying? We will surely hear them cry if we vote to support the administration's proposal to reauthorize TANF. The primary goal of most Democratic Members of Congress has been to reduce poverty and to ensure the well-being of children in the welfare system.

The proposals in H.R. 4700 would adversely affect hundreds of thousands of welfare recipients. The administration's welfare reform proposals are restrictive, and will severely limit the State of California's ability to respond effectively and efficiently to the needs of its welfare recipients. The long-term fiscal impacts of this legislation will cost California \$2.8 billion over a 5-year period because these proposals do not include increases in the TANF block grants. California's options for funding the projected costs will be limited to using State resources. This will essentially mean deep reductions in the TANF programs, and this is not right.

Quite simply put, H.R. 4700 will turn back the clock on welfare reform. Please vote no.

WELFARE REFORM IS ABOUT RE- AWAKENING SPIRIT OF AMER- ICAN FAMILY

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, in 1996 Congress acted to fundamentally reform America's welfare system from the broken entitlement program it had become into the streamlined temporary assistance program we now have today.

Since the historic Republican-led reforms of 1996, more than 3 million children have been lifted out of the depths

of poverty and given the opportunity to achieve their fullest potential. Welfare rolls have been reduced by more than 60 percent nationally, and by more than 50 percent in my home State of Montana.

There are those who argued 7 years ago that reforming welfare would put children out on the street. History has proven them wrong, and they are wrong now to use the same negative rhetoric. Welfare reform is about reawakening the spirit of the American family that has only known the disappointment of a government handout. Congress must act to keep the American entrepreneurial spirit alive, to invest in our children's future, and to secure the social and economic backbone of the great American experiment in democracy. I urge Members to vote yes on welfare reform.

CORPORATE TRAITORS CHOOSE PROFITS OVER PATRIOTISM

(Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I want to call attention this morning to Bermuda, and the practice of American companies reincorporating to a foreign country to avoid paying U.S. income taxes, which is inconsistent with American corporate citizenship, patriotism, and unfair to those individuals and businesses who pay their fair share in taxes.

To address this problem of corporate inversions, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. MALONEY) and I have introduced H.R. 3884, the Corporate Patriot Enforcement Act.

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This legislation currently has 50 bipartisan cosponsors, and support for it continues to grow as Members and citizens alike become aware of what is happening.

Senator BAUCUS and Senator GRASSLEY have also introduced similar legislation and the Treasury Department acknowledges it has become a huge problem.

Mr. Speaker, since H.R. 3884 was introduced on March 6, a number of companies such as the all-American Stanley Tools Company of New Britain, Connecticut, have filed to reincorporate overseas. So, they just get a phony address and they avoid paying corporate income taxes that the rest of their competitors all have to pay.

The impetus for my support of this issue did not come from the AFL-CIO; it came from the competitors of these corporate expatriates who are saying, "If we paid, they ought to pay." In this time, with the country feeling so good in the aftermath of September 11 by our patriotic response, everybody should do their part. Bermuda ought not to be an address for these companies; America should.

SUPPORT WELFARE REFORM

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, helping the American people is why many of us ran for Congress. I think life is getting better in America every day, but there are still people who are having a tough time making ends meet. We need to help as many of those people who are truly in need as we can. I think the welfare reform bill we have before us today will help those people by giving them the tools they need to make their dreams become a reality.

Since 1994, welfare caseloads have fallen by 9 million. Today, only about 2 percent of the population of the United States is on welfare. With this bill, we can reduce this number even further by helping people become productive. As a body, I believe we need to do what is best for this great country. Voting for this bill is a vote for a better and stronger Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues who supported the successful 1996 bill to keep up the good work and vote for this landmark reform legislation, and I urge those who voted "no" last time to take another look. You cannot argue with success. Let us put our people before politics. Vote "yes" for H.R. 4700, the Personal Responsibility, Work, and Family Promotion Act of 2002.

CORPORATE EXPATRIATION

(Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, in September, Stanley Works of New Britain, Connecticut, announced that it was closing its hardware manufacturing facility and moving it to China. In February, Stanley Works announced that its board had approved a plan to modify its corporate structure to reincorporate in Bermuda. Last week, a shareholder vote approving this expatriation was effectively invalidated due to improper proxy procedures. A new shareholder vote will have to be scheduled.

Corporate expatriates are former U.S. companies who set up paper headquarters in tax havens in order to avoid U.S. taxes. Stanley intends to use a third country with which we have a tax treaty in order to avoid virtually all U.S. taxes, including on products made and sold here in the United States. In fact, such expatriates continue to reside in the United States, take advantage of our education system, our public utility systems and, of course, our national defense. In this time of war, they are saying, Thank you but we aren't going to pay our fair share.

This is outrageous. Congress must act expeditiously to close this loophole and stop this unpatriotic tax dodge. The gentleman from Massachusetts

(Mr. NEAL) and I have introduced legislation to do exactly that. I call on this House to take the appropriate action and pass this legislation promptly.

SUPPORT WELFARE REFORM

(Mr. KNOLLENBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, 6 years ago we took a welfare system that nobody thought could be fixed and put it to work. The results have been overwhelming. Welfare reform lifted nearly 3 million children from poverty and 9 million people left the welfare rolls altogether.

Republicans led a welfare reform effort that has proved successful in replacing welfare checks with paychecks. We created a system that fostered independence, boosted personal income, and improved the well-being of children. By promoting work, recipients were encouraged to join the workforce. By redefining compassion, welfare recipients were given a new sense of hope. By passing welfare legislation, people were guided down the path of independence.

We must guard against those who want to erode the progress that we have made, especially on so important an issue as changing the culture to promote strong families and a strong work ethic. Join me today and vote for H.R. 4700.

CLOSING LOOPHOLE FOR CORPORATE TAX DODGING

(Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, what a year it has been. We now have proof that Enron was manipulating West Coast energy prices to simply gouge consumers of their hard-earned money while its auditor, Arthur Andersen, took the term "cooking the books" to a whole new level. We have also learned how Fortune 500 companies take out life insurance policies on their rank-and-file employees to enhance compensation for senior executives.

Speaking of corporate tax avoidance, try and keep a straight face when you tell your constituents that it is perfectly legal for a company to rent a post office in Bermuda and avoid paying taxes. This is utterly ridiculous. One of the effects of corporations not paying their taxes is that we cannot give seniors and working families a prescription drug benefit, or that we cannot fund the President's education bill or hire more cops. Moreover, we are in the middle of a war, and we are effectively permitting U.S. companies to place a higher value on earnings than on patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to close this loophole. It is time to crack down on tax evasion. I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor H.R. 3884.